



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/790,249

03/02/2004

Mariko Aduma

116692005100

9890

25227 7590 01/04/2007
MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD
SUITE 300
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

MISIASZEK, MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3625

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
--	-----------	---------------

3 MONTHS

01/04/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/790,249

Applicant(s)

ADUMA ET AL.

Examiner

Michael Misiaszek

Art Unit

3625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/2/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

1. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tavor (US 20010032077 A1).

Regarding Claims 1, 7

Tavor discloses a product information contrast system and computer program product which contrasts a plurality of items of product information that contain specifications indicating properties of products, comprising:

- a product information management unit managing the plurality of items of product information of the products including a criterion product (at least paragraph [0012]: memory used to store product information)
- a judgment unit determining whether specifications in the product information items of the criterion product are different from specifications in the product information items of at least one of the products managed by the product information management unit (at least paragraph [0012]: comparison module compares product information)
- a display control unit generating a visually recognizable display indication of differences in the specifications of the product information items based on results

Art Unit: 3625

of the determination of the judgment unit (at least abstract: results of comparison output to standard output write functions)

Regarding Claims 2, 3, 4

Tavor further discloses:

- a selection unit selecting arbitrary one of the product information items of the products, managed by the product information management unit, as being one of the product information items of the criterion product (at least paragraph [0009]: topics for comparison selected)
- the display control unit is configured to generate a visually recognizable alarm display indication when the results of the determination of the judgment unit indicate that the specifications of the product information items of the criterion product are not included in the specifications of the product information items of said at least one of the products (at least paragraph [0050]: output generated for distinct products)
- the display control unit is configured to generate a visually recognizable alarm display indication when the results of the determination of the judgment unit indicate that any specifications other than the specifications of the product information items of the criterion product are included in the product information items of said at least one of the products (at least paragraph [0050]: output generated for distinct products, i.e. product with differing specifications)

Regarding Claim 5

Tavor further discloses:

- a threshold setting unit setting a threshold value for the product information items of the criterion product, which is provided to determine whether the specifications of the product information items of the criterion products are related to a newly set property, an omitted property, or an out-of-range property when compared with the specifications of the product information items of the products (at least paragraph [0023]: thresholds for product information topics set by module)
- the judgment unit configured to determine whether the specifications of the criteria product are different from the specifications of the products, based on the threshold value of the setting unit (at least paragraph [0026]: product comparison natural language output dependent on ranges of information topics)
- the display control unit configured to generate a visually recognizable alarm display indication of the newly set property, the omitted property, or the out-of-range property in the specifications of the product information items related to the criterion product, based on the results of the determination of the judgment unit (at least paragraph [0025]: natural language output determined based on range and thresholds by module)

Art Unit: 3625

Regarding Claim 6

Tavor further discloses:

- a display control information management unit managing display control information to control the alarm display indication based on an input threshold value and a predetermined range of the input threshold value (at least paragraph [0025]: natural language output determined based on range and thresholds by module)
- the display control unit configured to generate the visually recognizable alarm display indication of the newly set property, the omitted property, or the out-of-range property, based on both the results of the determination of the judgment unit and the display control information managed by the display control information management unit (at least paragraph [0025]: natural language output determined based on range and thresholds by module)

Art Unit: 3625

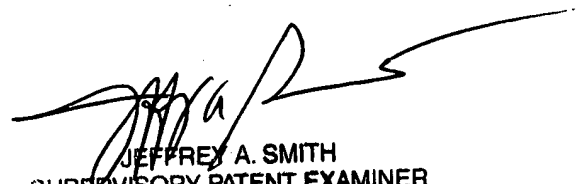
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Misiaszek whose telephone number is (571) 272-6961. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jeffrey A. Smith can be reached on (571) 272-6763. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Michael Misiaszek
Patent Examiner
12/22/2006


JEFFREY A. SMITH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600